ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

Town of WESTHAMPTON

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1955

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

Town of Westhampton

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1955

EASTHAMPTON NEWS COMPANY
EASTHAMPTON, MASS.

INDEX

Assessors, Report of the Board of 28

Budget Recommendations for 1956 25

Center Cemetery, Report of the 44

Fire Department, Report of the 45

Inspector of Buildings, Report of the 46

Jury Box, Names in the 26

Memorial Library, Report of the 31

Recapitulation 23

Selectmen, Report of the Board of 10

School Committee, Report of the 32

- Superintendent of Schools, Report of the 33
- School Principal, Report of the 36
- School Nurse, Report of the ..... 38 - 39
- School Financial Statement 40
- School Department Budget 42

Town Clerk, Report of the 3

Town Treasurer, Report of the 6

Trust Funds 8

Warrant, Articles of the Town 47

Well Child Clinic, Report of the 43

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

For the Year Ending December 31, 1955

BIRTHS

Jan.	14	Patricia Prosco
Feb.	28	Brenda Ann Buzzee
Mar.	15	Miriam Annette Young
Mar.	27	Richard Warren Barrett
May	7	Eileen Ferris Wright
July	1	Catherine Mann
July	5	Judith Ann Sarafin
Sept.	11	Jason Oliver Roose
Sept.	30	George Richard Munson
Oct.	5	Angela Therese Derouin
Oct.	7	Kathleen Rose Witherell
Nov.	21	Timothy Patrick Browne
Dec.	14	Robert Lee Fuller

DEATHS

Jan.	29	Mary Houle Ledoux
Feb.	4	Gertrude Anderson Parsons
June	19	Helen Smith Crosier
July	5	Adam Osetek
Oct.	9	Grace Hamilton Lester
Nov.	19	Joseph LaRose
Dec.	1	Marguerite Reardon Verrill

MARRIAGES

Feb.	3	Charles W. Norris	Westhampton, Mass.
		Esther B. Clapp	Westhampton, Mass.
Feb.	12	Raymond O. Pinard	Westhampton, Mass.
		Patricia J. Bastick	Easthampton, Mass.
May	10	Frederick John Pinard	Westhampton, Mass.
		Mildred Evelyn Johnson	Easthampton, Mass.

June	12	Louis A. Nelson, Jr.	Athol, Mass.
		Florence June Bass	Westhampton, Mass.
Aug.	27	Clifford H. Fisher, Jr.	Westhampton, Mass.
		Elizabeth J. Balise	Westhampton, Mass.
Oct.	22	Lewis Edward Miller	East Otis, Mass.
		Elizabeth Clara Hathaway	East Otis, Mass.
Dec.	10	Alfred C. Blakesley	Westhampton, Mass.
		Urena S. Manley	Huntington, Mass.

DOG LICENSES

Licenses Issued:

47	Males	@	$2.00	$94.00
6	Females	@	5.00	30.00
37	Spayed	@	2.00	74.00
4	Kennel	@	10.00	40.00
				$238.00

Paid to Town Treasurer	$219.20
Retained 94 fees @ 20c	18.80
	$238.00

FISH AND GAME LICENSES

Licenses Issued:

46	Resident Fishing	@	$3.25	$149.50
53	Resident Hunting	@	3.25	172.25
62	Resident Sporting	@	5.25	325.50
9	Resident Minor Fishing	@	1.25	11.25
18	Resident Female Fishing	@	2.25	40.50
4	Non-Resident 3-day Fishing	@	2.75	11.00
1	Duplicate	@	.50	.50
				$710.50

Paid to Division of Fisheries and Game	$662.50	
Retained 192 Fees @ 25c	48.00	
		$710.50

Free Licenses:
5 Resident Sporting

D. L. JUDD
Town Clerk

I have examined the accounts of the Town Clerk and find them correct.

JEAN W. NORRIS
Town Auditor

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER

RECEIPTS

Balance on Hand January 1, 1955			$60,955.34
Taxes:			
1952	Personal Property	$55.55	
1953	Real Estate	174.00	
	Personal Property	28.80	
	Excise	29.78	
1954	Real Estate	4,119.32	
	Personal Property	981.75	
	Excise	534.59	
1955	Real Estate	27,270.15	
	Personal Property	7,158.78	
	Excise	5,076.09	
	Poll	268.00	
Interest on Taxes:			
1952		8.57	
1953		24.56	
1954		138.66	
1955		21.33	
Demands:			
1952		.35	
1953		.70	
1954		1.40	
1955		.35	
Highways:			
From Massachusetts State Treasurer			
Chap. 81, 1954 Work		2,409.57	
1955 Work		4,156.75	
Old Age Assistance:			
From Massachusetts State Treasurer			
Federal Grant for Aid		1,512.54	
for Administration		261.50	
State Aid		2,752.33	

Meal Taxes	205.04	
Refunds from Other Towns	278.23	
Schools:		
From Massachusetts State Treasurer		
Chap. 70	7,190.22	
Transportation	6,055.00	
Aid to School Superintendents	456.23	
Vocational—Tuition	90.65	
Transportation	83.00	
Other Income:		
From Massachusetts State Treasurer		
Corporation Taxes	1,260.00	
Income Taxes	510.95	
Division of Live Stock Control	12.50	
From Treasurer of Hampshire County:		
Dog License Refund	152.82	
From Town Clerk, Dog Licenses	219.20	
Revolver Permits	6.00	
Milk Dealers' Licenses	2.00	
Auto Dealer's License, 3rd Class	7.50	
Auctioneer's License	2.00	
Sale of Oil Burner	225.00	
Eastern States' Farmers Exchange, Refund	1.41	
Town Highway Department:		
Machinery Fund	2,711.75	
Withholding Taxes	1,919.68	
County Retirement Deductions	89.23	
Interest from Trust Funds:		
Cemetery	91.73	
Whiting Street	36.23	
Wright	26.25	
Thayer	26.25	
1955 Income		78,644.29
		$139,599.63

EXPENDITURES

Paid Selectmen's Orders	$69,132.31
Paid School Committee Warrants	30,032.55
Balance on Hand January 1, 1956	40,434.77
	$139,599.63

OUTSTANDING TAXES

1954	Real Estate	$11.69
	Excise	14.10
1955	Real Estate	4,489.91
	Personal Property	1,086.95
	Excise	896.66
	Poll	4.00
		$6,503.31

STABILIZATION FUND

Balance on Hand, January 1, 1955	$1,174.42
Interest Income 1955	31.03
Balance on Hand January 1, 1956	$1,205.45

FUNDS HELD IN TRUST BY THE TOWN

		Interest Received in 1955
Cemetery:		
$2,000.00	Lucy Langdon	$60.00
500.00	O. C. Bridgman	13.13
100.00	Myra G. Strong	2.63
100.00	Sarah C. Cook	2.63
100.00	George Burt	2.63
100.00	Samuel Edwards	2.63
100.00	Arthur L. Searle	2.63

100.00	Emma G. Damon	2.63
50.00	David L. Brown	1.32
50.00	Susan A. Loud	1.50
		$91.73

Worthy Poor:

$1,380.85	Whiting Street	$36.23
1,000.00	Wright	26.25
1,000.00	Thayer	26.25
		$88.73

RALPH S. BRIDGMAN
Treasurer

I have examined the accounts of the treasurer and find them correct, showing disbursements to the amount of ninety-nine thousand, one hundred sixty-four dollars and eighty-six cents ($99,164.86), for which vouchers are on file, and a balance on hand of forty thousand, four hundred thirty-four dollars and seventy-seven cents ($40,434.77). Due from Ralph S. Bridgman, Tax Collector, 1954 real estate tax eleven dollars and sixty-nine cents ($11.69), excise fourteen dollars and ten cents ($14.10); 1955 real estate tax four thousand, four hundred eighty-nine dollars and ninety-one cents ($4,489.91). Personal Property one thousand eighty-six dollars and ninety-five cents ($1,086.95), excise eight hundred ninety-six dollars and sixty-six cents ($896.66), and polls four dollars ($4.00).

JEAN W. NORRIS
Auditor

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The people of the Town of Westhampton have been confronted with many problems during the year 1955. To all of those who have helped solve these problems, the Board of Selectmen extend their sincere appreciation.

We thank you for the time you donated during the period of the August flood.

Westhampton sent a splendid float to the Town of Huntington to help celebrate its 100th anniversary. Thank all of you who worked to make our contribution a success.

Thank you Jim Hickey for your capable leadership of our Fire Department since its beginning. We regret accepting your resignation as of February 15, 1956.

EARL R. GETT
WILLIAM M. FISKE
FRANK B. MONTAGUE
Selectmen of Westhampton

TOWN HALL ACCOUNT

Western Massachusetts Electric Co.	$136.04	
John Cernak, Jr.	300.85	
Ward Miller	25.25	
Ernest A. Delisle	8.57	
Stanley Bartlett	350.00	
Foster-Farrar Co.	.75	
Westhampton Water Company	25.00	
Massachusetts Fire Equipment Corp.	6.50	
Parson's Electric Shop	2.20	
Charles Brambilla	7.00	
James O. Hickey	14.30	
		$876.46

TOWN OFFICERS

Earl Gett, Selectman	$150.00
Charles R. Burt, Selectman	25.00
William M. Fiske, Selectman	125.00
F. B. Montague, Selectman	100.00
Sidney Cole, Assessor	125.00
Gilbert I. Flint, Assessor	100.00
Philip J. Norris, Assessor	100.00
D. L. Judd, Town Clerk	150.00
Ralph S. Bridgman, Treasurer	250.00
Ralph S. Bridgman, Collector	175.00
Earl Gett, Chief of Police	8.75
Oliver Bishop, Constable	3.75
Jean W. Norris, Auditor	25.00
Mrs. H. Miller, School Committee	80.00
Ellis Hover, School Committee	60.00
David Clapp, School Committee	60.00
James O. Hickey, Dog Officer	25.00
Stanley Bartlett, Sealer	20.00
Myron Clapp, Cattle Inspector	25.00
Myron Clapp, Inspector of Slaughtering	17.00

William M. Fiske, Moderator	10.00	
Gilbert I. Flint, Election Officer	10.63	
Evelyn Tracy, Election Officer	10.63	
Frank W. Blakesley, Registrar	25.00	
Gertrude Flint, Registrar	5.00	
Edith Blakesley, Copying Town Orders	25.00	
Massachusetts Selectmen's Association	10.00	
Massachusetts Coll. and Treas. Assoc.	4.00	
Massachusetts Assessors' Association	9.00	
Hampshire County Selectmen's Assoc.	6.00	
		$1,739.76

CHAPTER 81—MATERIAL

John S. Lane & Son	$1,213.04	
Lane Construction Corp.	201.00	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	82.23	
W. N. Potter Grain Stores, Inc.	60.00	
Omasta Bros.	830.24	
Henry J. Payson	80.70	
New England Metal Culvert Co.	412.44	
American Tar & Asphalt Company	1,406.19	
		$4,285.84

CHAPTER 81

Harland Lemery	$1,297.50
Benjamin Stark	397.00
F. W. Blakesley	703.75
W. M. Fiske	1.25
George Payson	149.50
Murray Clapp	6.88
Eugene Lemery	245.00
Edward Balise	10.50
Donovan Bros.	68.00
Richard Wakem	183.00

Earl Gett	16.50	
James O. Hickey	4.50	
Richard Foley	112.00	
Frank Montague	246.64	
Omasta Bros.	550.25	
Walter Henderson	3.12	
Albert LaFrance	15.00	
Machine Fund	1,442.00	
		$5,452.39

CHAPTER 90—CONSTRUCTION
FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIR—MATERIAL

Omasta Bros.	$239.45	
Edward Balise	113.40	
Henry Payson	81.50	
John Cernak, Jr.	24.75	
W. R. Witherell	41.00	
E. A. Delisle Company	14.56	
H. M. Parsons	18.30	
E. A. Montague	6.00	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	652.70	
Albert E. Delisle	102.30	
Valentine Concrete Co.	349.14	
Cernak Farm Supply	73.97	
W. M. Fiske	5.34	
James O. Hickey	190.31	
The Lane Construction Corp.	46.80	
P. J. & I. M. Clapp	31.64	
New England Metal Culvert Co.	347.31	
		$2,338.47

CHAPTER 90—CONSTRUCTION
FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIR

F. W. Blakesley	$713.75
Harland Lemery	832.50
Earl Gett	66.00

Eugene Lemery	190.50	
Richard Wakem	114.00	
George Payson	72.00	
Edward Balise	65.50	
Clifford Fisher	88.50	
Frank Montague	1,369.00	
Ernest Delisle	552.00	
Murray Clapp	12.00	
Theodore Derouin	104.50	
Omasta Bros.	2,330.00	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	513.50	
James O. Hickey	560.78	
Donovan Bros.	60.00	
G. Russell Bass	16.00	
Albert LaFrance	6.25	
Hallett Construction Co.	230.00	
		$7,896.78

CHAPTER 90 MAINTENANCE—MATERIAL

John S. Lane & Son	$313.11	
Omasta Bros.	119.28	
American Tar & Asphalt Co.	423.12	
Henry S. Payson	1.50	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	97.27	
W. N. Potter Grain Stores, Inc.	15.00	
		$969.28

CHAPTER 90 MAINTENANCE

F. W. Blakesley	$38.75
Harland Lemery	49.50
Frank Montague	76.50
Eugene Lemery	33.00
Richard Wakem	25.00
Richard Foley	8.00

Omasta Bros.	44.00	
George Payson	14.00	
Machine Fund	80.50	
		$369.25

CHAPTER 90 CONSTRUCTION—MATERIAL

New England Metal Culvert Co.	$281.50	
E. A. Montague	87.30	
American Tar & Asphalt Co.	3,625.55	
Leo Aloisi	20.80	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	623.81	
Omasta Bros.	131.16	
John S. Lane & Sons, Inc.	334.22	
The Lane Construction Corp.	86.40	
LaFleur Bros.	2.75	
		5,193.49

CHAPTER 90 CONSTRUCTION

F. W. Blakesley	$430.00	
Harland Lemery	472.50	
Frank Montague	195.63	
George Payson	231.00	
Omasta Bros.	1,098.00	
James O. Hickey	19.50	
Murray Clapp	13.50	
John Jones	72.00	
Benjamin Stark	40.00	
Edward Balise	17.00	
Eugene Lemery	104.00	
Donovan Bros.	64.00	
Richard Wakem	97.00	
Jack Donovan	48.00	
Machine Fund	386.00	
		3,288.13

CHAPTER 90 CONSTRUCTION
ROUTE 66—MATERIAL

Richard Tracy	$52.00	
Henry J. Payson	91.30	
Edward Balise	142.60	
Omasta Bros.	102.65	
New England Metal Culvert Co.	1,944.26	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	160.25	
		$2,493.06

CHAPTER 90 CONSTRUCTION—ROUTE 66

F. W. Blakesley	$411.25	
Frank Montague	721.13	
Donovan Bros.	2,440.00	
E. I. Donovan	620.00	
Harland Lemery	366.00	
Benjamin Stark	259.50	
Omasta Bros.	706.50	
Hallett Construction Co.	838.75	
Zack Donovan	64.00	
Ernest Delisle	160.00	
Eugene Lemery	3.75	
Joseph Misterka	38.00	
Ralph Payson	3.12	
Machine Fund	251.25	
		$6,883.25

SNOW REMOVAL, SANDING AND ROAD WORK

F. W. Blakesley	$181.25
Harland Lemery	540.75
Frank Montague	209.38
Benjamin Stark	170.00
Edward Balise	34.50
Russell Balise	17.00

Donald Barrett	3.75	
Walter Henderson	4.00	
Earl Gett	26.25	
Robert Adams	12.00	
Murray Clapp	393.29	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	309.34	
W. N. Potter Grain Stores, Inc.	660.00	
George Payson	10.00	
Freeman Scott	5.00	
Albert LaFrance	17.50	
Omasta Bros.	154.00	
W. M. Fiske	8.75	
Eugene Lemery	26.25	
Richard Warren	7.50	
Ralph Payson	4.38	
James Pinard	4.38	
Machine Fund	520.00	
		$3,319.27

ROAD MACHINERY ACCOUNT

John Cernak, Jr.	$259.86
Harland Lemery	225.00
Hector A. Arel Co .	28.35
E. F. Edson Co., Inc.	92.00
Tarbell Watters Co.	44.98
Benjamin Stark	26.00
Cernak Farm Supply	356.60
Witherell's Garage	22.73
Walsh Holyoke Fabricators	79.21
O'Brien Tire Service	10.00
C. & I. Distributors	21.65
Plumb Auto Supply Co.	2.48
Graves Equipment	32.93
Manchester Co.	3.12
Federal Supply Co.	10.80

Ernest A. Delisle Co.	7.56	
J. Russell & Co.	32.96	
Sears, Roebuck & Co.	2.87	
LeFleur Bros.	5.96	
F. W. Blakesley	6.18	
Oliver Bishop	5.50	
S. J. Wise & Sons, Inc.	297.14	
Northampton Radiator Co.	3.50	
Perkins, Milton Co., Inc.	22.50	
Walter Witherell	23.20	
Eugene Lemery	5.00	
Baskin's Auto Exchange	50.00	
Earl Gett	3.75	
		$1,681.83

BRIDGES AND RAILINGS

Myron M. Clapp	$176.96	
E. A. Delisle	22.82	
		$199.78

ROAD MACHINERY BUILDING

John Cernak, Jr.	$362.02	
Western Massachusetts Electric Co.	43.15	
Anderson & Sons	55.00	
Ostrowski & Delisle	250.00	
Westhampton Water Company	9.00	
		$719.17

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Massachusetts Fire Equipment Corp.	$45.00	
Frank S. Parsons	16.86	
James R. Shea	16.25	
		$78.11

CEMETERY ACCOUNT

Stanley Bartlett	$430.45	
Hampshire Sand & Gravel, Inc.	14.55	
Westhampton Water Company	5.00	
		$450.00

CEMETERY INTEREST

Stanley Bartlett	$69.55

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Cases Aided—10	$8,160.95

OLD AGE ADMINISTRATION

Estelle Frary, Salary	$500.00	
Expenses	24.70	
		$524.70

CLERICAL HIRE

Frances Fox	$150.00

RECREATION COMMITTEE

McCallum's	$2.00	
T. A. Purseglove Co.	25.00	
Smith Glass & Mirror Co.	8.56	
		$35.56

TRUST FUNDS

Marion Mascho, Street & Wright Fund	$62.48	
Philip Clapp, Thayer Fund (Treasurer)	13.13	
Frank Hathaway, Thayer Fund	13.12	
		$88.73

ARCHITECT PLANS FOR NEW SCHOOL

Frank Stuart	$1,950.00

TAX ABATEMENTS

Excise	$175.79	
Real Estate	84.00	
		$259.79

TAXES

Treasurer of Hampshire County	$2,483.85	
Treasurer of Massachusetts		
State Parks and Reservations	67.24	
		$2,551.09

STATE CENSUS

Evelyn Tracy	$38.65

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS

Retirement System	$182.41	
Fire Dept. Building Construction		
James O. Hickey	403.74	
		$586.15

TRAVEL EXPENSES

C. R. Burt	$16.10	
G. I. Flint	5.00	
Earl Gett	18.35	
		$39.45

CONTINGENT ACCOUNT

R. A. Warner	$9.60
Earl Gett	13.47
Oliver Bishop	3.12
Hampshire County Commissioners	5.00
Edward L. O'Brien	30.00
Town of Westhampton	8.40
Dr. Allan A. Vogel	13.00

Ralph S. Bridgman	2.30	
Frank W. Blakesley	62.00	
Sidney Cole	2.00	
		$148.89

WITHHOLDING TAXES

First National Bank		$1,884.01

RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Treasurer of Hampshire County		$75.08

PRINTING AND SUPPLIES

Barre Gazette	$13.43	
Hobbs & Warren, Inc.	153.75	
D. L. Judd	4.71	
Earl Gett	6.62	
Easthampton News Co.	340.41	
Poor Jim's Print Shop	47.00	
Mark Supple	75.12	
H. S. Gere & Sons	3.94	
Gazette Printing Co.	6.02	
Ralph S. Bridgman	6.20	
		$657.20

INTEREST, INSURANCE, AND BONDS

Pease & Co.	$495.14	
E. Ray Ashley	117.80	
Sander's Insurance Agency	194.02	
King & Cushman, Inc.	417.40	
James P. McGrath	125.00	
		$1,349.36

INTEREST ON TOWN HALL NOTE

Northampton National Bank		$1,200.00

MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Stanley Bartlett	$68.42	
Henry M. Parsons	17.00	
National Geographic Magazine	6.00	
Brownell Company	6.32	
Library Book House	163.93	
Edith E. Grant	41.15	
Marion Mascho, Librarian	150.00	
		$452.82

CIVILIAN DEFENSE

Ernest A. Delisle	$3.12	
James O. Hickey	45.59	
Stanley Bartlett	2.00	
Western Massachusetts Electric Co.	7.11	
		$57.82

DIPHTHERIA CLINIC

Ruth S. Hover, R. N.	$25.00	
C. Keith Wilbur, M. D.	25.00	
		$50.00

WELL CHILD CLINIC

Ruth S. Hover, R. N.	$30.00	
Ruth S. Hover, Supplies	.51	
Dr. Abel Ross	25.00	
Dr. C. Keith Wilbur	40.00	
		$95.51

PUBLIC WELFARE

John Cernak, Jr.—2 Cases	$26.68

MEMORIAL DAY

Arnold Kenseth, Speaker	$15.00	
Laura Witherell, Supplies	20.00	
		$35.00

DUTCH ELM DISEASE

Myron Hathaway	$20.00	
W. R. Witherell	22.80	
		$42.80

WATER HOLES

James O. Hickey	$42.00

FIRE CHIEF AND FOREST WARDEN

James O. Hickey	$150.00

DOG LICENSES

Treasurer of Hampshire County	$176.20

RECAPITULATION

Town Officers	$1,739.76
Town Hall Account	876.46
Interest, Insurance, and Bonds	1,349.36
Interest on Town Hall Note	1,200.00
Road Machinery Building	719.17
Bridges and Railings	199.78
Chapter 81—Material	4,285.84
Chapter 81	5,452.39
Chapter 90 Maintenance—Material	969.28
Chapter 90 Maintenance	369.25
Chapter 90 Construction—Material	5,193.49
Chapter 90 Construction	3,288.13
Chapter 90 Construction, Route 66 Material	2,493.06

Chapter 90 Construction, Route 66	6,883.25	
Chapter 90 Construction, Flood Damage Repair—Material	2,338.47	
Chapter 90 Construction, Flood Damage Repair	7,896.78	
Snow Removal, Sanding & Road Work	3,319.27	
Road Machinery Account	1,681.83	
Memorial Library	452.82	
Fire Department	78.11	
Cemetery Account	450.00	
Cemetery Interest	69.55	
Old Age Assistance	8,160.95	
Old Age Administration	524.70	
Travel Expenses	39.45	
Contingent Account	148.89	
Withholding Taxes	1,884.01	
Retirement System	75.08	
Printing and Supplies	657.20	
Clerical Hire	150.00	
Recreation Committee	35.56	
Trust Funds	88.73	
Architect Plans for New School	1,950.00	
Tax Abatements	259.79	
Taxes	2,551.09	
State Census	38.65	
Special Appropriations	586.15	
Civilian Defense	57.82	
Diphtheria Clinic	50.00	
Well Child Clinic	95.51	
Public Welfare	26.68	
Memorial Day	35.00	
Dutch Elm Disease	42.80	
Water Holes	42.00	
Fire Chief and Forest Warden	150.00	
Dog Licenses	176.20	
		$69,132.31

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1956

Schools	$38,500.00
Highways, Chapter 81	675.00
Chapter 90 Construction	2,500.00
Chapter 90 Maintenance	1,000.00
Bridges and Railings	500.00
Town Officers	3,000.00
Old Age Administration	7,000.00
Board of Health	50.00
Board of Health, Well Child Clinic	80.00
Interest, Insurance and Bonds	1,500.00
Town Hall Maintenance	1,000.00
Gypsy Moth	150.00
Dutch Elm Disease	150.00
Printing and Supplies	700.00
Library, Dog Fund Plus	300.00
Memorial Day	40.00
Contingent Account	150.00
Reserve Fund	1,000.00
Snow Removal, Sanding and Road Work	3,500.00
Veterans' Relief	300.00
Rabies Vaccine	50.00
Diphtheria Clinic	55.00
Public Welfare	200.00
Fire Patrol	100.00
Cemetery	450.00
Road Machinery Account	3,000.00
Travel Expense	50.00
Fire Department	400.00
Fire Department and Road Machinery Buildings	550.00
Postage and Telephone	100.00
Clerical Hire	150.00
Hampshire County Retirement System	295.94
Recreation Committee	50.00
Town Hall Bond	1,000.00
Interest on Town Hall Bond	180.00

Water Holes	100.00
Fire Chief and Forest Warden	150.00
Tree Removal	150.00
Civilian Defense	100.00

NAMES IN JURY BOX

Lee W. Sinclair	Engineer
John Schumann	Millhand
Morris Frary	Garage Operator
Mrs. William B. Miller	At Home
Mrs. Sidney Cole	At Home
Joseph LaCourse	Laborer
John Lynes	Music Instructor
Mrs. Edward S. Fox	Secretary

JURORS DRAWN IN 1955

Maurice P. Patenaude	Mechanic
Mahlon K. Parsons	Farmer
Robert J. Osborne	Technician

WHERE THE TAX DOLLARS COME FROM

(As verified by the Town Treasurer)

Taxes and Excises	45.8%
State and County Aid for Roads	19.8%
State Aid for Schools	15.0%
State Aid for O. A. A.	9.2%
General Aid from State Aid Not Allocated	2.8%
Available Funds	7.4%
	100%

WHERE THE TAX DOLLARS GO TO

Highways, Snow Removal, Road Machinery Expense	26.9%
Police and Fire Protection	2.9%
Welfare (O.A.A.) and Veterans' Aid	4.6%
State and County Taxes	8.0%
Government—Supplies—Travel	6.8%
Public Health (Clinics)	.4%
Construction and Maintenance of Town Bldg.	4.5%
Miscellaneous (Contingent, Cemetery, Library, Memorial Day)	2.3%
Interest—Insurance, Bonds, Debt	7.0%
Parks and Recreation (Dutch Elm, Gypsy Moth, Recreation)	.2%
Care of Town Hall	2.0%
Schools	34.4%
	100%

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS — 1955

RAISE AND APPROPRIATE

Schools	$31,980.00
Highways, Chapter 81	675.00
Highways, Chapter 90, Construction	4,000.00
Highways, Chapter 90, Maintenance	1,000.00
Bridges and Railings	500.00
Town Officers	2,000.00
Old Age Assistance and Administration	8,000.00
Board of Health	50.00
Board of Health, Well Child Clinic	100.00
Interest, Insurance and Bonds	1,200.00
Town Hall Maintenance	850.00
Gypsy Moth	150.00
Dutch Elm Disease	300.00
Printing and Supplies	700.00
Library, Dog Fund Plus	300.00
Contingent	150.00
Snow Removal, Sanding and Road Work	3,500.00
Veterans' Relief	300.00
Rabies Vaccine	50.00
Diphtheria Clinic	55.00
Public Welfare	200.00
Fire Patrol	100.00
Cemetery	450.00
Travel Expense	50.00
Fire Department	400.00
Road Machinery Buildings	750.00
Hampshire County Retirement System	182.41
Recreation Committee	50.00
Clerical Hire	150.00
Memorial Day	40.00
Fire Chief and Forest Warden	150.00
Retiring Town Hall Bond	1,000.00

Interest on Town Hall Bond	200.00	
Water Holes	100.00	
Establish Tax Title Account	100.00	
Fire Department, Special Town Meeting	403.74	
		$60,186.15

FROM BALANCE IN THE TREASURY

Highways, Chapter 81	$9,000.00	
Highways, Chapter 90, Construction	9,000.00	
Highways, Chapter 90, Construction, Route 66	15,000.00	
Highways, Chapter 90, Maintenance	2,000.00	
Reserve Fund	1,000.00	
Road Machinery Account	3,439.75	
Road Machinery Account, Free Cash	658.18	
Dog Refund	152.82	
State Parks and Reservations	76.44	
County Tax	2,320.00	
School Architect	2,000.00	
Overlay	1,547.83	
		46,195.02
Total 1955 Appropriations		$106,381.17
Estimated Receipts and Available Funds	$65,605.38	
Net Amount Raised on Polls and Property	40,775.79	
		$106,381.17
Personal Property Valuation	$199,327.00	
Real Estate Valuation	764,192.00	
		$963,519.00

Tax on Personal Property	$8,371.73	
Tax on Real Estate	32,096.06	
Tax on Polls	308.00	
		$40,775.79

Tax Rate	$42.00
Motor Vehicle Tax	6,057.69
Exemptions on Real Estate	420.00
Exemptions on Polls	36.00
Abatements on Motor Vehicles, 1954	49.14
Abatements on Motor Vehicles, 1955	225.85
Abatements on Real Estate, 1955	4.63
Abatements on Polls, 1955	4.00
Abatements on Personal Property, 1955	126.00

FROM THE TABLE OF AGGREGATES

Year	*Horses*	*Cows*	*Sheep*	*Goats*	*Cattle*	*Swine*	*Fowl*	*Dwellings*
1953	19	296	24	14	198	24	16,554	234
1954	18	375	20	11	101	11	12,925	237
1955	19	356	47	11	117	17	10,766	239

GILBERT I. FLINT
SIDNEY H. COLE
PHILIP J. NORRIS
Board of Assessors

REPORT OF MEMORIAL LIBRARY — 1955

One hundred fifteen books were added to the Memorial Library this year. Two of these were gifts from Mrs. Frank Bridgman. Six Story Hour periods were held at the library during the summer with an attendance of 91.

Fifty-seven Reading Certificates were given to the boys and girls in the third, fourth, and fifth grades at the Center School under the direction of Mrs. Evelyn Parsons. Two hundred eighty-five books were read, 214 fiction and 71 non-fiction.

In May magazines were taken to the State Hospital for the use of the patients.

During Book Week in November Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Hickey, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Mascho visited the three rooms at the Center School and showed the new books that went into circulation that week.

One hundred ninety-three books have been read by 20 readers in Adventures in Reading.

Circulation:	
Adult Fiction	756
Adult Non-fiction	395
Juvenile	1,351
Magazines	620
Books borrowed from the Bookmobile:	
Adult Fiction	287
Adult Non-fiction	168
Juvenile Fiction	344
Juvenile Non-fiction	114

MARION M. MASCHO
Librarian

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Town of Westhampton

We have read and approved reports of the Superintendent of Schools, the School Principal, and others responsible for the various school activities. Their reports outline in considerable detail the school matters which have been reviewed and passed by the School Committee at its regular meetings or one of the special meetings held during the year.

In addition to items covered in other reports, a large, old maple tree which was a hazard to the children on the playground and to the school building has been removed.

Certain alterations to the building, required by the State, were completed. These alterations consisted of extensive repairs to the heater room and the installation of fire protection devices. Ventilator fans were installed in the toilets.

One school bus contract was extended for one year, and another contract was entered into which provided for an additional school bus to transport the seventh and eighth grade children to Williamsburg. Unfortunately, this bus was disapproved by the State Inspectors, and it has been necessary to transport these children on the same bus as the high school students.

ELLIS T. HOVER, *Chairman*
HENRIETTE P. MILLER
DAVID G. CLAPP
School Committee

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Herewith is submitted the third annual report of the Superintendent of Schools for Westhampton.

During 1955 there were four important steps taken to advance the work of education in our school.

The first of these was the decision of the Union School Committee to employ an elementary supervisor to supervise the instruction in grades one through eight. Mr. J. Walter Richard of Fitchburg was secured to fill that post. He is a graduate of the four-year course at Fitchburg Teachers College and will receive his master's degree this summer from the University of Massachusetts. His experience of six years as an elementary principal in the schools of Amherst plus one year of teaching at the U. S. Air Base School in Tripoli, North Africa, has given him an excellent background for the work he has to do. We were fortunate to get such an excellent young man for this position.

The second change was the decision to send our seventh and eighth grade pupils to the Junior High School at Williamsburg. In addition to their regular subjects, they have the use of the new cafeteria and the new gymnasium. This arrangement, whereby they become a part of a larger school, will make their transition to the Senior High School much easier for them. It also relieves overcrowding at the Center School building.

A third step in improving the opportunities in the Center School was the reorganization of the program so that only two grades were assigned to each teacher. The former plan had been to give three grades to the principal, three to the intermediate teacher, and the first two grades to the primary teacher. As the enrollment increased, it became more difficult for our teachers to provide for the needs of three grades in the two upper rooms. It was a decided advantage to make this change.

The addition of the Audubon Lectures to our program was a fourth step in improving the work of the school. These lectures give added impetus to the study of natural science, and give specific information about bird life in our area.

When schools closed in June, there were several changes in our teaching force. Mr. Paul Rosenberg resigned as principal to accept a position in Fairlawn, N. J. Since he had nearly completed his work for a master's degree at the University of Massachusetts, he wished to be near Columbia so that he could begin study for his doctor's degree at their teachers college. Mrs. Evelyn Parsons transferred to the Southampton School from grades 3, 4, and 5. Mrs. Hazel Salls was appointed to full time work in art in the Northampton Schools. Miss Susan Lawrence, who had taught physical education, felt that she had to have a full time position as soon as she completed her master's degree in June and returned to Virginia. These teachers had given excellent service and it was with regret that their resignations were accepted.

To fill these vacancies, the following teachers were elected: Mr. Richard Towse of Sturbridge, a graduate of Springfield College in 1955, was assigned to serve as principal and teach grades 5 and 6. He also teaches the physical education. Mrs. Philip Norris who is a graduate of Framingham Teachers College was appointed to teach grades 3 and 4. In addition to the above teachers, Miss Rachel Bridgman continued as our primary teacher. These teachers are well trained for their work and are extending every effort to give our children the best training possible.

The health department has been under the direction of Dr. C. Keith Wilbur as school physician, Dr. Abel Ross as school dentist, and Mrs. Ruth S. Hover as school nurse. It was with sincere regret that we learned of the resignation of Mrs. Hover in June. She had been a most excellent school nurse. Mrs. Eunice Cernak of Westhampton who trained at Cooley-Dickinson Hospital and is a registered nurse was appointed

school nurse in September 1955. This department has cared for and protected the good health of our children.

At the beginning of the school year in September, we had 18 pupils in Northampton High School, one in Smith's School, and 16 in Williamsburg Junior High School, for a total of 35 secondary pupils. Nearly all of these pupils are making good progress in the courses they have selected.

The School Committee furnishes transportation for 56 elementary children locally and for 35 students who attend out-of-town high schools. Those who do this work have done excellently. No accident has occured and the children have been carried safely. Our State reimbursement on this account was $6,055.00 in 1955.

Mr. Stanley Bartlett has maintained a clean and satisfactory school building during the year. His work as custodian is greatly appreciated.

The provisions of the State and local communities for universal free education have made America one of the outstanding and most progressive nations of the world. May our schools become more and more a treasure house for youth, a prized possession of our communities, and a safeguard to our democratic way of life.

In closing, I wish to thank our principal, the teachers and all others for the splendid work they have done for our children. Their fine work is highly commended.

Our School Committee has been a pleasure to work with. To the members, I extend my sincere thanks for their thoughtful help during 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCIUS A. MERRITT
Superintendent of Schools

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL

Since the beginning of school in September, the Center School has become a closely knit, smoothly functioning unit of teachers, supervisors, and students aiming toward academic improvement and social adjustment. Our program is directed toward creating "the whole man", or, increasing the stature of spirit, mind, and body, a concept which includes not only achieving a firm grasp on fundamental skills, but also directing interests, habits, and attitudes which will benefit the community as well as the child. A moderate air of informality and mutual respect between teacher and student are the special media through which our program works.

Music and penmanship are directed by supervisors in those fields who visit the classes regularly. The program for the upper classes has been enriched by interesting and informative lectures by Mrs. Claridge of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. The lively discussions and healthy interest in nature study give children a much better appreciation for the necessity of conservation as well as for helpful rather than destructive pastimes here in Westhampton during their leisure hours.

The physical education program struggles along with inadequate equipment, and not at all when the weather is bad, but those times any activities are possible, the children have shown much interest and good ability in learning coordinated skills of mind and body. Group participation rather than individual achievement is stressed and good sportsmanship the only skill needed to enjoy the classes. A large playroom or gymnasium would make it possible to carry on a physical education program that would do justice to the attempt to create "the whole man" in our school.

For the first time in many years a temporary solution to the problem of overcrowded conditions at the school was instituted whereby only grades one through six are attending school here in town, the others travelling to Williamsburg and Northampton by bus. This has left us with a present enrollment of sixty-seven which at least allows for adequate aisle space and no longer involves a fire hazard. Repairs on the cellar and ventilation of the toilets have been made but sanitary facilities are still not up to modern standards for the large number of children using them. When the weather is such that children cannot play in the school yard, the crowded conditions at recess and lunch time are difficult. It is the hope of administrators, teachers and students that these physical deficiencies are improved in the very near future.

RICHARD M. TOWSE

Principal

Westhampton Center School

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL NURSE

JANUARY 1, 1955 to SEPTEMBER 1, 1955

I herewith submit my report of the health program at the Westhampton Center School for the year ending September 1, 1955.

Dr. C. Keith Wilbur is the school physician.

During the winter months there were few reported cases of communicable diseases, a winter with most absences due to virus infections and upper respiratory infections.

In the early spring much interest was being shown nationally and locally regarding the Salk vaccine. This vaccine was developed to be given in a few doses to reduce the threat and severity of poliomyelitis. The State of Massachusetts declared to provide by consent of parents to give vaccine to children in grades one and two. The parents in Westhampton almost unanimously approved. In May by consent of the Chairman of the Board of Health, Mr. Gett, I went to Boston and collected our allotment of vaccine which was given on May 27, 1955, to 18 children. Of the 9 remaining who were eligible, 3 had declined and 6 had upper respiratory infections and were unable to receive vaccine. The vaccine was given by Dr. C. Keith Wilbur. The second dose was not forthcoming from the State as it was declared too late in the season to be given.

In June all children were weighed and measured.

Linda Wooding attended Camp Hodgkins during the month of August with a good report of satisfactory gain.

My resignation to the School Committee was to be effective September 1, 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH S. HOVER, R. N.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL NURSE

SEPTEMBER 1, 1955 to DECEMBER 31, 1955

In September, the students were examined by Dr. Wilbur. The parents were notified of defects whenever necessary. Dr. Ross examined for dental caries. In October hearing tests were given.

There were many children with upper respiratory infections at the time of physicals. Dr. Wilbur stated the same was true in other vicinities. Only two cases of measles have been reported, although there are many cases in neighboring towns and city.

I would like to thank the parents and teachers for their cooperation in all health matters and also express appreciation to Mr. Stanley Bartlett who is doing such a fine job in keeping the school clean.

Respectfully submitted,

EUNICE H. CERNAK
School Nurse

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

EXPENDITURE

Appropriation	$31,980.00	
Expended in 1955	30,032.55	
Balance		$1,947.45

Administration

L. A. Merritt, Salary	$900.00	
L. A. Merritt, Expenses	75.00	
Ruth S. Hover, Census	15.00	
Mrs. Jeanette O'Neill, Secretary	53.00	
		$1,043.00

Instruction

Teachers' Salaries:		
Paul Rosenberg	$1,980.00	
Richard Towse	1,320.00	
Evelyn Parsons	1,866.72	
Rachel Bridgman	2,866.72	
Patricia Norris	973.36	
Esther Norris, Music	200.00	
Hazel Salls, Art	90.00	
Hazel Salls, Travel	50.00	
Susan Lawrence, Physical Education	70.00	
Susan Lawrence, Travel	35.00	
Rinehart Handwriting System	200.00	
Mass. Audubon Society	150.00	
J. Walter Richard	166.64	
J. Walter Richard, Travel	25.00	
Marion Mascho, Sub.	64.00	
		10,057.44
Books		273.34
Supplies		176.68

Maintenance		
Janitor's Salary	$975.04	
Fuel	788.00	
Operating Expenses	394.51	
Repairs and Replacements	292.44	
		2,449.99
General		
Health:		
Dr. C. Keith Wilbur	$100.00	
Ruth S. Hover, R. N.	135.93	
Dr. Abel Ross	10.00	
Medical Supplies	9.62	
		255.55
Transportation:		
Elementary—W. Witherell	$4,171.46	
High and Vocational—W. Witherell	4,122.00	
		8,293.46
Tuition:		
Easthampton School Dept.		
Adult Education	$5.40	
High School		
Town of Williamsburg	984.00	
City of Northampton	6,239.69	
Vocational		
Smith's School	175.65	
		7,404.74
Contingent		36.35
Outlay		42.00
Total Expenses for Schools for 1955		$30,032.55

RECEIPTS

Funds Received in 1955 toward School Expenses:		
Mass. School Fund, Chap. 70	$7,190.22	
Mass. School Fund, Chap. 71		
Transportation	6,055.00	
Vocational Education		
Tuition	90.65	
Transportation	83.00	
Superintendent's Salary and Travel	456.23	
		13,875.10
Net Cost of Maintaining Schools for 1955 from Local Taxation		$16,157.45

WESTHAMPTON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET

	Budget 1955	Spent 1955	Budget 1956
Administration	$1,100.00	$1,043.00	$1,100.00
Instruction			
Teachers' Salaries	11,000.00	10,057.44	11,500.00
Books	300.00	273.34	300.00
Supplies	400.00	176.68	300.00
Maintenance			
Janitor's Salary	1,050.00	975.04	1,100.00
Fuel	700.00	788.00	700.00
Operating Expense	350.00	394.51	400.00
Repairs and Replacements	1,700.00	292.44	2,000.00
General			
Health	350.00	255.55	350.00
Trans.—High & Voc.	2,800.00	4,171.46	6,300.00
Trans.—Elem.	4,200.00	4,122.00	4,200.00
Tuition—High	6,780.00	7,229.09	9,000.00
Tuition—Voc.	500.00	175.65	500.00

Contingent	500.00	36.35	500.00
Outlay	250.00	42.00	250.00
	$31,980.00	$30,032.55	$38,500.00

REPORT OF THE WELL CHILD CLINIC

The Well Child Conference was held in the Westhampton Town Hall on Wednesday, June 15, 1955.

The staff was as follows:

Dr. C. Keith Wilbur	Physician
Dr. Abel Ross	Dentist
Mrs. Irene Delisle	Registrar
Mrs. Ruth Hover	Nurse

There were 28 children examined of which 19 were new cases. Five were vaccinated.

The dental examination showed 8 cases with caries, 20 cases free of caries.

Mrs. Elgie Challet and Mrs. Paul Omasta served luncheon to the staff in the Church Parlors.

THE DIPHTHERIA CLINIC

Dr. C. Keith Wilbur started this clinic in April. All were given D. P. T.

1 Case—3 Doses
14 Cases—Boosters

RUTH S. HOVER, R. N.

REPORT OF THE CENTER CEMETERY

Perhaps the most outstanding accomplishment of the year was the expansion of the cemetery by the purchase of adjoining land to the south of approximately one and one-half acres. There are now only seventeen lots left in the first addition to the original cemetery known as the New Part.

A rotary mower was purchased last winter. A special three wheel carriage was designed to trim close to monuments and the engine from the rotary mower was attached. The resulting power trimmer works wonderfully well and eliminates much hand trimming and backache. Thus by bolting the engine to either the trimmer or the rotary mower it serves the double duty of knocking down grass the ordinary mower passes over untouched or as a power sickle.

Permanent damage to grass by drought last summer was much more severe than at any time in my experience. A great deal of reseeding may eventually have to be done.

A surprising total of 569½ hours was spent on cemetery work due mainly to a huge regrading project. My goal is to give the cemetery a uniform rolling contour instead of the abrupt humps and hollows now existing in the old part of the cemetery.

Three dozen flags were purchased to replace the faded ones that have seen at least ten years service.

There were thirteen burials this year.

Repairs were made to three breaks in the water pipe because of a plugged drain hole at the shut-off valve.

A load of small stone was spread over the deep ruts of the roadway and traffic has packed it down to a more durable surface.

Sixteen locust posts were also given to the cemetery by Charles Burt.

STANLEY BARTLETT
Caretaker

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

I hereby present the seventh annual report of the Westhampton Fire Department.

The department answered eight fire calls and twelve service calls. Of these fire calls, five were grass fires, two chimney fires, and one false alarm with thirteen men responding. Of the service calls, two were chimney fires, three grass fires, one car fire, one false alarm, four lots burned over, and one cellar pumped out. A total of 32 fire extinguishers were serviced and recharged.

The following permits were issued: Fire Permits, 114; Fuel Oil, 14; Range Oil, 4; L. P. Gas, 6.

Two members resigned—Rev. Robert Young and Joseph Sarafin.

The Firemen's Association received $35.00 during the year. A Dodge pick-up truck was donated to the department and has been a big help.

The volunteer firemen have met regularly each month and bi-monthly during the summer months when drill periods were held.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the townspeople for their cooperation in calling for a fire permit before burning, and for aid at fires.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES HICKEY

Fire Chief

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

Building Permits Issued in 1955:

#88	Murray and Alice C. Clapp	Garage
#89	Morris and Estelle Frary	Garage
#90	Theodore and Maria Derouin	Dwelling
#91	John and Rita Schumann	Dwelling
#92	Ernest A. Delisle	Retail Hardware Store
#93	James and Bette McGill	Dwelling
#94	Raymond Sarafin	Dwelling
#95	Gilbert M. Wright	Addition
#96	Freeman Scott	Dwelling
#97	Quentin Browne	Addition
#98	Dwight S. Church, Sr.	Garage
#99	Charles R. Burt	Tool Shed
#100	Mary and Walter Challet	Addition
#101	Donald C. Barrett	Dwelling
#102	David G. Clapp	Silo
#103	Alfred C. Blakesley	Addition
#104	Howard I. Mann	Addition
#105	American Telephone & Telegraph Co.	Telephone Repeater Building

ARTICLES OF THE TOWN WARRANT

TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1956
Ten A. M.—Prompt

Article 1. To hear and act on all reports presented at said meeting.

Article 2. To hear and act on the report of the committee appointed at the last annual meeting to study salaries of town officers and report at this meeting.

Article 3. To choose all necessary officers to serve the ensuing year.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care of the highways in charge of the Selectmen.

Article 5. To vote in compliance with Section 108, Chapter 41, General Laws, which requires that salaries of elected officers be fixed by vote of the Town.

Article 6. To raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1956, and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period less than one year in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44, General Laws.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from unappropriated available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for Chapter 81 and Chapter 90 Highways, or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 9. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $1,000.00 to cover the 1956 note on the Town Hall and $180.00 for the interest on the same.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote one week vacation with pay (forty-eight hours) to permanent employees.

Article 11. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum of money for the observance of Memorial Day.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $150.00 for Gypsy Moth.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $150.00 for Dutch Elm Disease.